



News Release

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Veteran Hiring Event to Fill Jobs Across Illinois **IDVA, IDES and U.S. Chamber Partner to Put Veterans to Work** *Pre-Registration is Encouraged for Best Service, Results*

CHICAGO – One of the largest efforts to help Veterans find employment returns to Chicago on Thursday, March 21, 2013 for the Hire Our Heroes hiring event. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) are primary sponsors. The expo is from 9 a.m. to Noon at the Palmer House Hilton at 17 E. Monroe Street, Chicago.

More than 100 Chicago-area businesses, many with outlets throughout the state and Midwest, have positions ready to be filled. Veterans and others should pre-register at hoh.greatjob.net. This event - which utilizes an innovative model featuring candidate pre-screening, applicant-employer matching and onsite interviews – expects to put over a 1,000 veteran job-seekers in interaction with some of the state and nation's top employers. Veterans should dress appropriately, bring resumes and be prepared for a brief, preliminary interview. Civilians also are welcome.

Veterans are sought-after employees for their service training, soft skills, and experiences, which includes respect for authority, embracing responsibility and success operating in a team-based environment. Service members also have advanced training in fields ranging from technology and manufacturing to construction and logistics.

A state income tax credit of up to \$5,000 is available to businesses for each qualified Veteran who is hired. Additionally, employers might qualify for a federal tax credit of up to \$9,600 through the Work Opportunity Tax Credit.

Job seekers and employers also should use Illinoisjoblink.com. More than 100,000 help-wanted ads are on Illinoisjoblink.com, the IDES employment website that links job seekers with employers. The keyword matching technology increases the likelihood of a successful new hire and compares favorably to private efforts that cost hundreds of dollars for a single advertisement. No-cost HR recruitment services are available at the website and at (877) 342-7533.

Other sponsors include the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, the U.S. Department of Labor, the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve, American Legion, Student Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Operation Support our Troops.

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